

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NAIROB 07116 091129Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-11 HA-05 /082 W

-----049829 091208Z /64

R 090934Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7328

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 7116

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, KE, SO, ET

SUBJECT: SOMALI MILITARY DEFECTORS DISPLAYED

1. BOTH LOCAL DAILIES MAY 9 FEATURED PRESS CONFERENCE OF COL. ABDULLAHI YUSAF AHMED, RANKING MEMBER OF GROUP OF ABOUT 20 SOMALI MILITARY WHO DEFECTED TO KENYA APRIL 10 IN WAKE OF ABORTIVE COUP ATTEMPT AGAINST SIAD BARRE. ASIDE FROM COL. AHMED, LT. COL. MOHAMED ABSHIR ALI, MAJOR AHMED MOHAMED ELGIR AND CAPT. ABDULLAHI MOHAMED HASSAN WERE NAMED AND PICTURED.

2. BANNER HEADLINES OF "INVASION OF KENYA ORDERED" AND "BARRE ORDERED HIS ARMY TO ATTACK KENYA" PICKED UP ON STATEMENT OF COL. AHMED WHO, AS COMMANDER OF SIDAMO FRONT, CLAIMED HE WAS ORDERED BY BARRE IN MID-MARCH TO "INVADE KENYA THROUGH MANDERA, WAJIR AND RHAMU" AS "HE (BARRE) TOLD ME HE WAS ANGERED WITH KENYA'S ATTITUDE AND ITS MORAL SUPPORT FOR ETHIOPIA." COL. AHMED CONTINUED THAT HE FAILED TO CARRY OUT THE ORDER FOR LACK OF SUPPLIES, TRANSPORTATION AND BECAUSE OF OTHER LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NAIROB 07116 091129Z

3. THRUST OF COLONEL AHMED'S REMARKS WAS THAT BARRE REGIME IS TYRANNICAL AND CORRUPT AND WILL NOT LAST LONG "BEFORE WE LIBERATE OURSELVES." HE COMMENTED THAT COUP ATTEMPT FAILED BECAUSE IT HAD BEEN LAUNCHED PREMATURELY AND LACKED ADQUATE TRANSPORTATION AND SUPPLIES. COLONEL AHMED "APPEALED TO US PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER AND AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL TO HELP INNOCENT

PEOPLE WHO WERE BEING KILLED BY BARRE REGIME."

4. COMMENT: KENYAN INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN DEBRIEFING SOMALI DEFECTORS FOR PAST WEEKS. FOLLOWING PATTERN USED IN DUALEH CASE, PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH FOLLOWED EXTENSIVE DEBRIEFING WAS CLEARLY AIMED AT SHOWING SOMALIA AS REAL THREAT TO KENYA. WHILE EVENTUAL FATE OF DEFECTORS UNCERTAIN, AS IN CASE OF DUALEH, KENYAN POLICE OFFICIALS HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT GOK NOW CONSIDERING THEIR REQUESTS FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM. LEMELLE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY DEFECTORS, PRISONERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NAIROB07116
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780196-0201
Format: TEL
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780579/aaaacpcm.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e7882aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2749366
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOMALI MILITARY DEFECTORS DISPLAYED
TAGS: PBOR, MORG, KE, SO, ET
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e7882aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014